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Hongkong Daily Press.

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[a2183]

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Hongkong, 20th October, 1904. [a2484]

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Hongkong, 5th August, 1904. [1912]

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Hongkong, 7th October, 1904. [1621]

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Hongkong, 6th October, 1904. [a35]

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Hongkong, 24th August, 1904. [a1153]

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Hongkong, 15th August, 1904. [a38]

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Hongkong, 15th August, 1904. [a1768]

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Hongkong, 23rd September, 1904. [a34]

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Hongkong, 3rd June, 1904. [a1451]

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Hydraulic Elevators to each Floor.
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MODERATE CHARGES! No EXTRAS!

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PEAK HOTEL.

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West Monsoon.

A COVERED GANGWAY LEADS
FROM THE TRAMWAY TERMINUS
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Ladies' Afternoon Tea-Rooms.
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Hot and Cold Water throughout.

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Hongkong, 10th June 1903. [a1802]

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Excellent Cuisine and Wines.

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Hydraulic Elevator, hot and cold water
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Special Rates for Tourists.
Launch Service for Guests.
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Hongkong, 31st October, 1902. [a29]

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MACAO

HAS been re-opened under European
management and most strict supervision
as to food, cleanliness, and hygiene of the place.

All comforts of a home.
A most pleasant retreat for those desirous of
a few days rest and quiet.

Comfortable accommodation for travellers
paying a visit to the historical and picturesque
colony of Macao.

Macao is 40 miles south-west of Hongkong
One steamer (s.s. *Hongshan*), daily to and
from Hongkong, and two steamers to and from
Canton, give easy communication with both
these centres.</

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We beg to notify our Customers and the Public Generally that we have now REMOVED our Large and Selected Stock of WINES and SPIRITS in Wood and Bottle to the Cellarage occupying the whole of the Space under ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS; and have now the LARGEST AND BEST STOCKED WINE VAULTS IN THE COLONY.

We are in a better position than ever before to meet our Customers' requirements. Casks of Sherry, Hogsheads of Whisky and Brandy, Pipes of Port, and Bottled Wines Maturing in Bins or packed in cases ready for export may be seen in every direction as far as the eye can reach.

Our Wine Vaults are well worth a visit, and we cordially invite any of our Customers to come and judge for themselves.

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ONLY communications relating to the news columns should be addressed to THE EDITOR.
Correspondents must forward their names and addresses with communications addressed to the Editor, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith. All letters for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.
No anonymously signed communications that have already appeared in other papers will be inserted.
Orders for extra copies of DAILY PRESS should be sent before 11 a.m. on day of publication. After that hour the supply is limited. Only supplied for Cash.
Telegraphic Address: PRESS, CODES: A.B.C. 5th Ed. L1879.
P.O. Box, 33. Telephone No. 12.

MARRIAGE.
On the 14th Oct. at Shanghai, OLAF THORSEN, to MARGOT ELISABETH PETERSEN.

The Daily Press.
HONGKONG OFFICE: 14, DES VŒUX ROAD, 21.
LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.
HONGKONG, OCTOBER 21st, 1904.

The examiners of Queen's College have this year presented to the Government a report which will be perused with more satisfaction than could be derived from their report last year. A new method of conducting the examinations was adopted last year; the former attempts to draw up a graduated order of merit were abandoned and the examiners set themselves to enquire whether the work of the school was laid upon the soundest possible lines. The general recommendations they made constituted a distinctly negative answer. The Rev. E. A. IRVING, Inspector of Schools, in forwarding the report to the Government on behalf of the Governing Body, said it appeared to them that the teaching of the College should be so organised that a boy who has succeeded in reaching the upper classes "ought with reasonable diligence and ability to have acquired a fair knowledge of Chinese, a reasonably good knowledge of English, as it is spoken and written and printed, and ought to be able with considerable facility to translate from one language to the other." The Examiners found that Colloquial English was certainly not then, as it should be, the most important instrument for teaching English, and they found the system of reading adopted "quite indefensible."

This year the Examiners—the Rev. E. A. IRVING, Major J. W. ORRISTON, R.A., and Mr. S. B. C. ROSS—in forming their opinions on the work of the school, paid particular attention to the general recommendations made last year,

and they state that no more general recommendations are made this year upon the teaching of Colloquial English, Reading and Chinese, because those made last year have been adopted "in a most complete and satisfactory manner." The Examiners found that the work of the Lower and Preparatory Schools had "immensely improved," and is, broadly speaking, very satisfactory. They further express the belief that a correspondingly increased value might be given to the Upper School if certain improvements which they specify are adopted. The success which has attended the adoption of the recommendations made by the Examiners last year will doubtless encourage ready acquiescence on the part of the College authorities in the few recommendations made in the present report.

It is of the highest importance to the Colony that the work of its leading school should be laid upon the soundest possible lines. To say the least, it has in the past been rather disappointing to observe the imperfections which so many Chinese boys who have passed through Queen's College exhibit alike in speaking and writing the English language. The change in methods of instruction in the school are certain to result in great improvement in this respect. The improvement that has been effected in the Preparatory School the Examiners state is most striking and a matter for sincere congratulation. With regard to the teaching of English composition (including grammar), the Examiners, mentioning the importance of teaching a clear and grammatical style of English composition, observe: "Correct writing follows naturally on correct speaking; and therefore when the boys who are now beginning their studies reach the higher classes, a great improvement in the standard of composition may reasonably be hoped for. Boys in Class III. have presumably been learning English for five years, which is ample time to master a foreign language. No lower ideal should satisfy Queen's College than this, that in the Upper School gross grammatical mistakes should be rare or unknown." The report, as our summary sufficiently makes clear, is of a very encouraging nature, and there is abundant promise in the results of this year's examination that the changes made in the organisation and in the methods of teaching will greatly enhance the reputation of the College.

Real practices have commenced at Tientsin for St. Andrew's Ball.

The French mail of the 20th September was delivered in London on the 19th inst.

The Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China have opened a branch in Hamburg.

Shareholders in the Canton Insurance Office are reminded of the ordinary general meeting which will be held to-day at noon at the offices of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Captain von Semmner has been appointed acting governor of Kienchow in the place of the present Governor Truppel, who is going on leave.

The directors of the Manila Railway have appointed Admiral Sir Cyrrus A. G. Bridge, G.C.B., to the seat on the board vacant by the death of Mr. George Rainy.

The American flagship Wisconsin, with Rear-Admiral Sterling on board, has been paying a visit to Nanking. The Admiral extended an invitation to the whole community to visit the flagship.

The Straits Public Works departmental report for 1903 says that, in that year, high rates for labour and materials prevailed at Singapore, due mainly to great activity in the erection of numerous and extensive buildings in that city.

Decorations have been conferred by the Emperor of Japan on the Chinese officials who were engaged in the revision of the Commercial Treaty between Japan and China. The Fifth Order of the Rising Sun has also been conferred on Mr. H. R. Wade, 1st assistant of the Imperial Maritime Customs at Shanghai.

H.B.M. Minister at Peking, accompanied by Admiral Sir G. H. U. Noel, K.C.B., had an audience at the Imperial Palace with the Empress-Dowager and the Emperor on the 16th inst. There was a large suite present, and the interview occupied nearly an hour.

The experiments by Captain Rost in connection with leprosy are reported to be progressing favourably. There are about one hundred cases all over Burma in which his method is being tried. Of these sixteen are under his personal observation in the Rangoon General Hospital, six being Europeans and Burmese and ten Burmese and natives of India. Two European patients have come from Calcutta to be treated. The patients are all progressing, and within a few months it is hoped they will be quite cured. The preparation for injection is being daily supplied to India, Japan, Canada, America, Barbados and to many other parts of the world. During the past twelve months Captain Rost has devoted all his leisure time to the work, and it is earnestly to be hoped that his labours will be crowned with success.

The membership of the St. Andrew's Society at Shanghai is 702.

A French sailor who stabbed a stoker of H.M.S. Bramble on the 2nd instant on the roadway outside the "Bar of all Nations," at Shanghai, believing that he had been "given away" at the inquest on the 4th and 5th by his companions, has made a full confession, and has been accordingly taken into custody on the capital offence.

The inquest on the body of the Chinese sampan man alleged to have been kicked to death by River Police Constable Muntz at Shanghai was held on the 14th inst. An open verdict was arrived at, to the effect that the boatman had been eating something which did not agree with him. A sudden blow may have caused a disturbance of the food and brought about a collapse. There were no marks to show where a blow was struck.

A slight accident occurred yesterday morning on the Peak Tramway. As the 9.30 down train was descending just above the signalman's station, a chain broke, releasing the rear brake, which fell automatically, and gripping the rail stopped the car. As it was doubtful how long they might be detained for necessary repairs, the passengers alighted and picked their way down the track by means of the steps quite recently made at the edge, thus reaching Bowen Road. The defect was soon made good, and the cars were running again within half an hour after the accident. No alarm was excited but rather a feeling of assurance created by the instant action of the brake. No one was, we understand, a penny the worse for the enforced walk, but some of those who took it have expressed the hope that they may not have to try those steps again.

A writer in the *Daily Chronicle* dealing with the shipping statistics of Britain for 1902 says:—Of the ports of the United Kingdom London holds the first place for imports, and Cardiff for exports, so far as quantity of shipping goes. Liverpool comes next in both trades, followed by the Tyne ports, Hull, and Glasgow. In quantity of shipping some of the Continental ports, New York and Hongkong, are pressing upon our chief ports very hard. In 1902 London was the first of ports, but Antwerp and Hamburg were before Liverpool, and so were New York and Hongkong. Perhaps the chief expansion in tonnage of shipping in the world is shown by Hongkong and Singapore, and both are ports in the British possessions. Hongkong in 1902 did 16.4, while New York only did 17.3 millions of tons. Of the total Suez Canal trade 10.2 millions were British out of 18.6 millions of tons, or five tons out of every eight were carried in British vessels.

By kind permission of Lt.-Col. Iremonger and officers, the Band of the 93rd Burma Infantry will play the following programme of music, at the King Edward Hotel, during dinner to-night (weather permitting):—
March..... "The Epagani"..... Ivan Caryll
Lullaby..... "A. waltz"..... W. G. S. W. G.
Selection..... "Reminiscences of Scotland"..... W. G. S. W. G.
Dance..... "Nell Gwyn"..... G. S. W. G.
Selection..... "The Chieftain"..... Sullivan
Waltz..... "Garden Party"..... Sullivan
Lancers..... "The Toreador"..... William
"God Save the King."

MENU:—Hors d'Œuvres—Sliced Tomatoes, Beetroot, Cucumbers, Caviare on Toast. Soup—Ox Tail, Fish—Boiled and Egg Sauce. Entrées—Grilled Kidney of Lamb, Stewed Lobster and Asparagus, Pigeon en Aspic, Joints—Roast Saddle of Mutton, Roast Turkey, Cold York Ham, Curry—utton, Salad—A la Germanoise. Vegetables—Boiled Potatoes, Chopped Potatoes, Cabbage, Mashed Potatoes. Sweets—Plum Pudding, Fruit Pie, Lemon Ice Cream, Pinner Cakes. Dessert—Fruits in Season. Tea and Coffee.

A VISITOR'S IMPRESSIONS OF HONGKONG.

The *Bangkok Times* of the 5th inst. contains a contribution headed "Sidelights on the Chinaman," being the result of observations made by a visitor to Hongkong. We take from it the following paragraph:—At the summit of the peak new buildings are in course of erection, and to those buildings quantities of material must be taken daily. Far up the mountain-side are things like ants moving slowly up the track. Should you rise early enough in the morning you would be able to see the long procession start, the procession of which those ants far up form part. Until you become accustomed to the sight the track to the summit is a sight like a long line of ants moving up the mountain. Each toiler for the daily ascent starts at the bottom with two loads. Let us say the loads are made up of bricks. One load consists of two portions, twenty bricks in each. The coolie bends, hitches twenty bricks on at either end of the pole, balances the pole carefully, and then starts off at a jog-trot on his six-hours task. After ascending thirty yards he comes back for the other portion of the load, and carries it up to the first. In this manner he will take his eighty bricks to the summit. He will do this in the blazing heat of the day, when it almost too hot for a white man to stand erect. Old men of seventy to boys of fourteen and old women and young girls labour on this ladder of pain. There are men who will laugh when you suggest that the work savours of slavery, but these men don't happen to carry bricks up the mountain side of Hongkong—they ride up in the cable car. Still it must be admitted that long procession seems contented with its lot, the reason given being that it enables the coolie to sweat a few cents out of the contractor to enable him to do his little gamble in the evening. When you have seen the work done, and studied the methods of conveying material to the heights of Hongkong by the cable for the first time that the building of the pyramids was a simple affair after all, and you also arrive at the conclusion that Chinamen must have had the contract.

TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER'S SERVICE.]
RESIGNATION OF THE HEAD MASTER OF ETON.
LONDON, 18th October.

The Rev. Edmund Warre, the head master of Eton, has intimated that he will resign at Mid-summer.

POLLARD'S LILLIPUTIAN OPERA COMPANY.

The Lilliputians last night repeated the musical comedy *The Gaiety* before a large audience.

All the songs and dances were, as on the previous night, excellently rendered and continuously applauded. To-night *A Gaiety Girl* will be staged.

FOOTBALL.

To-morrow afternoon at the Happy Valley the Hongkong Football Club (Association) will play H.M.S. *Tamar*. Kick-off at 4.15 p.m. The following will play for the Club:—F. H. Kew, goal; G. B. Macdonald and E. F. Aueott, backs; C. A. Brown, H. C. Gray, and E. Humphreys, halves; W. H. Williams, R. Macpherson, W. G. Leckie, W. H. Rutherford, and H. L. Garrett, forwards.

TWO CHILDREN POISONED.

Early yesterday morning, at Wanchai, a Chinese boy, 11 years of age, and a girl, 13 years of age, died from poison. They had been out playing together on the previous afternoon, and afterwards had their supper with several other people. As no one else seems to have taken any poison it is to be presumed that they took it in some form when they were out playing in the afternoon. A Chinese doctor was sent for, but being mystified did not prescribe.

RUSSIAN CRUISERS IN AUSTRALIAN WATERS.

Captain Helms, of the E. & A. steamer *Empire*, reports that he received instructions at Thursday Island to be on the lookout for two Russian cruisers, which were sighted 40 miles from Thursday Island, one having been ashore on Cook's Reef and towed off by the other. On arrival at Port Darwin information was received that the Admiral on the Australian station had despatched two cruisers from Sydney to investigate the matter.

THE MACAO-CANTON RAILWAY PROJECT.

We were informed yesterday that a concession for the construction of a railway from Macao to Canton had been granted by the Chinese Government to the syndicate formed some time ago in Macao, but we learn that no confirmation of this report has been received through official sources. There are good reasons for believing, however, that the Chinese Government will offer no insuperable opposition to the project. The latest information the Portuguese Consulate has on the subject is that the terms are to be discussed at Shanghai next week between Senhor Castello Branco and the Chinese authorities.

EUROPEAN CONSTABLE STABBED.

There was quite a scene in Wyndham Street yesterday morning. It appears that while Constable Ryan was walking in the direction of Lower Albert Road an Indian rushed at him, and, almost before he was aware of his presence, made a slash at him with a sword. The blow fortunately did not strike him fairly on the head, but instead caught the base of his helmet at the back. Even after striking the helmet, however, there was still sufficient force left to send the blade of the sword into the flesh at the back of the constable's neck and fell him to the ground. The assailant made off along Lower Albert Road, but an Indian police sergeant gave chase, and succeeded in capturing him before he had gone very far. Constable Ryan was sent to the Government Civil Hospital to have the wound attended to; it was not very serious. The Indian on being examined by a medical man was pronounced by him to be of sound mind. The man was subsequently charged at the Magistracy with inflicting grievous bodily harm on the Constable. The case was remanded.

THE EMPRESS-DOWAGER'S GIFT TO A MISSIONARY COLLEGE.

The announcement that the Empress Dowager of China had given Tls. 10,000 (£1,450) towards the cost of the Union Medical College in Peking must have come as a very pleasant surprise, states the *London Missionary Chronicle*. We can only hope that the gift is a sign of a changed attitude towards Christian missions on the part of the Empress. In any case the influence of such an act upon the relations between the missionaries and the Chinese officials can hardly fail to be productive of good. This Union Medical College, it will be remembered, is the institution which is being started by the Society in conjunction with the American Board and the American Presbyterian Mission for the training of Chinese students in Western medicine and surgery. Though admission is not to be confined to Christian converts, one of the chief aims of the college will be the training of medical evangelists who may be able to do in North China similar work to that which has been done so successfully for many years by the students trained at Travancore. Dr. Coghane has played a large part in the preparation of the scheme, and a heavy share of the responsibility for carrying it into effect will rest upon his shoulders.

THE WAR.

[REUTER'S SERVICE.]

RUSSIANS TO MAKE A STAND.
LONDON, 18th October.

Reuter's correspondent with General Oku wiring on the 15th inst. says, it is believed that the Russians intend to make a stand at the Hun River. The Japanese propose to force an entrance to Mukden as soon as possible.

CUSTOMS SQUEEZE.

The following notification was issued by Mr. H. E. Hobson, Commissioner of Customs of Shanghai, on the 12th inst.:—

"Customs Notification No. 513.
Notice is hereby given that on and after the 20th October fees are to be charged for certain documents issued to the public by superintendents and commissioners of Customs. The documents and the fees to be charged are as follows:—

- 1.—Transit Pass, inward, Hk. Tls. 1.
Transit Pass, outward, Hk. Tls. 1.
- 2.—Hatchio to go into Tientsin or exported to Shanhaiwan. Grain exported to Chefoo and Tientsin (N.B.—amount covered by each document not to exceed 500 piculs) each Hk. Tls. 3.
- (b) Bullion sent to interior by foreign Merchants to purchase native produce. Hk. Tls. 3.
- Bullion sent to interior and to Manchuria by Chinese, Hk. Tls. 3 (N.B.—Amount covered by each document not to exceed Tls. 5,000)
- Bullion exported by Chinese, Hk. Tls. 3.
- (c) Personal effects of Chinese officials not travelling on official business, Hk. Tls. 3.
- (d) Provisions sent by Foreign and Chinese Merchants to Manchuria, Hk. Tls. 3 (N.B.—Issued under special Tientsin regulation).

The Consular body of Shanghai met in the afternoon of the 13th October, says the *Shanghai Mercury*, and quite reasonably decided to protest against these fees to be charged, as the Consular body considers the charge is against the stipulation of the treaty and tariff arrangements with Powers concerned.

THE RUSSIAN CREWS AT SHANGHAI.

The *Shanghai Mercury* translates the following from a Chinese contemporary:—

The arms and ammunition of the *Askold* and the *Grosvoy* were removed a long time ago, but the matters relating to the crews of the Russian warships remained unsettled.

Yuan Taotai having been asked by the Japanese Consul-General for a list of the crews of the Russian warships requested the same to be furnished by the Russian Consul-General, but the Russian Consul-General refused to comply with the request.

The Japanese Consul-General again asked for the list, and Yuan Taotai went personally to the Russian Consul-General and requested him to furnish the list as he had consented to the crews being detained in Shanghai till the war is ended, not allowing any one of the crew to go home. A document pledging thereto had been signed by the Commanders of the two Russian warships and is now in the archives of the Taotai's Yamen, and the Russian Consul-General was in duty bound to see the pledge carried out.

Yuan Taotai has communicated the result to the Japanese Consul-General.

The Russian Consul-General had written Yuan Taotai to the effect that after the settlement of this affair the officers and men of the *Askold* and the *Grosvoy* should be treated in the same way as the crews of other foreign warships in Shanghai in the matter of liberty of movement, etc.

Yuan Taotai upon receipt of the despatch answered that the crews of the two Russian warships had no right to the same privileges as the crews of other foreign warships, and informed the Russian Consul-General that the officers and crews of the two warships would be allowed to go to the vacant ground of the Russo-Chinese Bank next to the Eastern Chinese Railway Company's wharf for exercise, but they would not be allowed to remain there for a long time; those who exercise along the bund are not permitted to go to other places, and when they have to go into the foreign settlements for exercise or to buy goods they are only allowed to go in a party of a fixed number under strict discipline so as to prevent any troubles.

The Russian Consul-General has consented, and the Taotai has already reported the conclusion of the affair to the Ministers for Japan and Russia and at the same time inform the Japanese Consul-General here. Yuan Taotai received a wire from the Waiwupu and an answer from the Japanese Consul-General, and this long outstanding matter came to a conclusion.

A HUGE PAID-UP CAPITAL.

A notable decline in company promoting during the last seven years is the outstanding feature of an official return relating to joint-stock companies in Great Britain which was issued last month.

The falling-off in the numbers registered, as well as in the amount of share capital, which has taken place during the last seven years will be seen from the following table:—

New Companies		Share Capital	
Registered			
1897	5,229	£291,117,559	
1900	4,966	£221,837,894	
1902	3,929	£155,983,861	
1903	4,075	£128,696,015	

On April 30, 1904, the total number of companies having a share capital which were on the register was 37,287, the total paid-up capital amounting to £1,899,648,875.

UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON, LIMITED.

The 31st ordinary meeting of the Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd., was held at the Head Office, 1, Queen's Buildings, at noon yesterday. Mr. A. G. Wood presided, and there were present:—Messrs. N. A. Slade, H. W. Slade, E. S. Wheeler, A. Forbes (Directors), C. Montague Ede (Acting Secretary), A. B. Rouse, C. M. G. Burnie, H. J. M. Carvalho, J. A. Carvalho, R. C. Wilcox, A. G. Morris, G. H. Potts, G. T. Veitch, G. W. F. Playfair, W. H. Gaskell, W. A. Cruickshank, A. Ahmet, E. H. Hinds, W. Melchers, G. H. Rogge, Hon. Gershom Stewart, O. Struckmeyer and others.

The SECRETARY read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said:—Gentlemen.—The report was published on the 20th September, and no doubt you have all made yourselves acquainted with its contents. I therefore propose, with your permission, to follow the usual procedure and take it as read. I think I may fairly say that the figures presented to you are very satisfactory. The premium income for the year 1903 is £4,256,000 and exceeds the premium income for the previous year by £232,000, and not only are we able to recommend a substantial increase in the shareholders' dividend, and addition to the reserve fund of \$100,000, but we are in a position to recommend the establishment of a sterling reserve fund and the setting aside of £20,000 for this purpose. We consider that this provision is necessary, as a large portion of our earnings and liabilities are in gold, and a reserve in the same currency will lead to increased confidence. The balance of \$500,941.04 we propose to carry forward to underwriting suspense account, and thus close the account for 1903. Last year our gold liabilities and assets were converted into dollars, for the purpose of the report at 1/8d., while this year the conversion has been made at 1/10d., which was the demand rate ruling on the 30th June last; this difference of 2d. in exchange has resulted in a book loss of \$112,984.06, which amount you will see from the working account for 1903 has been deducted from the balance brought forward, as it was considered simpler to show the balance brought forward in this way than by making an unexplained entry to the debit of exchange. The figures for the year 1904 are so far as they go, very satisfactory, showing an increase in premium of over \$200,000, while the losses for the same period are proportionately smaller, and I think this is a matter for congratulation. Turning now to the balance sheet, there is to be noticed a substantial increase both in gold and silver investments, which are actual accretions due to larger earnings. On the other side of the account we find a diminution of some \$78,000 in investment fluctuation account, which is due to the fall in value of our sterling securities, while exchange fluctuation account shows a falling-off of some \$118,000, due to the higher exchange of 1/10d. taken this year for the conversion of our sterling assets as against 1/8d. taken last year. The working account balance shows a satisfactory increase, as also does the re-insurance fund. There are no other features in the account which require particular comment, and I do not think I can usefully add any further remarks; but before moving the adoption of the report and accounts I shall be glad to answer any questions which you may wish to ask in reference to them. I may say that I have only one other matter to mention. You are aware, of course, that the excellent results of our business are mainly due to the efficiency and assiduity of the Company's staff, and the directors consider that this should be recognised, by making a suitable appropriation to the Company's provident fund. This, with your approval, we have much pleasure in doing.

No questions were asked.

The CHAIRMAN moved the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. G. W. F. PLAYFAIR, in seconding, said:—It is unnecessary to praise the way in which this Company is managed. Year after year, the shareholders' investments increase in value, and year after year the position is more and more satisfactory. I am very glad, indeed, to see that the Board have started a sterling reserve fund. I think it is an excellent idea. Two years ago, I remember the Chairman told us what you have told us to-day about the Provident Fund. There was no mention of it last year, and I intended to ask about it to-day; but I am very glad to see that it has already been decided upon. Good work deserves reward, and I thoroughly believe in the policy of adding to such a fund as the Provident Fund. It is practically an insurance for the staff, and the Directors should be congratulated for what they have done in this direction (Hear, hear).

The resolution was carried unanimously.

The Hon. GERSHOM STEWART moved the re-election of Messrs. H. W. Slade and E. S. Wheeler as Directors of the Company, and the proposition was agreed to.

Mr. MORRIS proposed, and Mr. R. C. WILCOX seconded, the re-appointment of the company's auditors—Messrs. W. Hutton Potts and A. R. Lowe. This was also unanimously carried.

Mr. MONTAGUE EDE, on behalf of the Society's staff, wherever located, thanked the shareholders for their liberality in passing the bonus.

The meeting then terminated.

LATEST STEAMER MOVEMENTS.

The O. & O. steamer *Gaelic*, with mails, &c., from San Francisco to the 1st Oct. via Honolulu, leaves Yokohama for this port via Kobe, &c., this morning, the 21st Oct.

The P.M. steamer *Montalia*, with mails, &c., left San Francisco for this port via Honolulu &c., on the 13th Oct.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held yesterday afternoon in the Council Chamber.

PRESENT:

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR. SIR MATTHEW NATHAN, K.C.M.G.
Hon. Colonel L. F. BROWN, R.E. (Commanding the Troops).
Hon. F. H. MAY, C.M.G. (Colonial Secretary).
Hon. E. H. SHARP, K.C. (Attorney-General).
Hon. L. A. M. JOHNSTON (Colonial Treasurer).
Hon. A. W. BREWSTER (Registrar-General).
Hon. Captain L. A. W. BARNES-LAWRENCE, R.N. (Harbour Master).
Hon. P. N. H. JONES (Director of Public Works).
Hon. Sir C. P. CHATER, C.M.G.
Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, C.M.G.
Hon. W. A. YUK.
Hon. R. SHEWAN.
Hon. GERSHOM STEWART.
Hon. W. J. GLEESON.
Mr. S. B. C. ROSS (Clerk of Councils).

BOUNTY-FED SUGAR.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL proposed the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to give effect to Article VIII of the Brussels Sugar Convention, 1902. The purpose of this measure is to give effect in the Colony to Article VIII of the Brussels Sugar Convention, 1902, by empowering the Governor-in-Council to make such regulations as he shall deem necessary for the said purpose, and by prohibiting the importation of bounty-fed sugar.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded.

Hon. R. SHEWAN—Can we have any particulars as to the Permanent Commission?

H. E. the GOVERNOR—I believe member will receive the information he desires.

The Bill was read a first time.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I understand that a Bill with the same title was read twice in March last. Certain objections were made as to the form of that Bill. In consequence of these objections no further steps were taken with that Bill. I move that the Bill read in this Council twice in March last be now withdrawn.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded.

The motion was adopted.

IMBECILE PERSONS.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL proposed the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend the Imbecile Persons Introduction Ordinance, 1903. The objects of this measure are, firstly, to remove any doubt as to whether the terms of the principal Ordinance include natives of the Colony, to whom the said Ordinance was not in fact meant to apply; secondly, to exclude persons of Chinese nationality from the operation of the said Ordinance; and, thirdly, to provide that the said Ordinance shall not conflict with the China and Japan Order in Council, 1895, as regards persons departed thereunder from China to Hongkong.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded.

The Bill was read a first time.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND IN HONGKONG AND CHINA.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL proposed the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to enable the Trustees of Saint John's Cathedral Church in Hongkong to hold and deal with property for the purpose of promoting the work of the Church of England in Hongkong and China. The "objects and reasons" of the Bill are set forth as follows:—

The object of this Ordinance is to supply the need which has long been felt for the existence of some statutory corporate body empowered to hold and deal with property for the use of the Church of England in this Colony and in China. Saint John's Cathedral Church Ordinance, 1899, provides for such a body as regards the Cathedral itself, and this Ordinance is not intended to alter or derogate from the statutory powers conferred upon such body as regards the Cathedral. There is, however, already other property dedicated to the use of the Church of England in the diocese, which will doubtless be added to in the future, and it is most desirable that all such property should be duly vested in a corporate body both for its safe keeping and to facilitate any necessary dealing with it. This Ordinance proposes to confer the necessary powers upon the only suitable body corporate already in existence, viz., the Church Body, that is to say, the Trustees of Saint John's Cathedral Church in Hongkong.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded.

The Bill was read a first time.

CHINESE EMIGRATION.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL proposed the second reading of the Bill entitled the Chinese Emigration (Amendment) Ordinance, 1904. He said:—This Bill is practically only formal in character. The matter is perhaps somewhat urgent, as we know that the Chinese labourers have already been shipped to the Transvaal really under the conditions which it is intended to impose by this Bill. It is hoped that shortly more labourers may be shipped under the regulations of the Bill. The intention of the measure is clearly shown in the "objects and reasons." A Convention was entered into this year between Great Britain and China respecting the employment of Chinese labour in British colonies. The immediate object of the Bill is not one expressly referred to in the Convention: the object of the Convention was to provide for the intended emigration of Chinese labour to the Transvaal, and regulations, differing in some respects from the regulations for years in force in Hongkong with regard to the emigration of Chinese labour, were provided for by the Convention. Pursuant to that Convention, the

Transvaal, and I think also Natal, have passed Ordinances the object of which is to prescribe the regulations required under the Convention, and these in the Transvaal and Natal are in force to this extent that coolies sent from here cannot be admitted to the territories of those colonies unless these regulations are complied with. Therefore, as a matter of fact anybody engaging in the transport of these coolies from Hongkong to Durban must comply with these regulations in so far as they differ from the regulations which have hitherto been in force here. The coolies have already been shipped from Hongkong to South Africa, although we have not any ordinance enforcing these regulations referred to in this Convention, and it is inconvenient that the trade should continue on that footing without the regulations being sanctioned. Hongkong has no power at present to ensure that these regulations will be complied with in shipping these coolies. The purpose of this Bill is to obtain the power, and I move that this Bill be now read a second time.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded.

H. E. the GOVERNOR—I would add to the statement made by the Hon. Attorney-General that the Convention does not really affect the emigration of coolies from Hongkong, as it does not apply to such emigration, but it has been considered by His Majesty's Government that it is as well that the conditions of the emigration from Hongkong should be exactly the same as the conditions of the emigration as stipulated in the Convention for the treaty ports.

The Bill was read a second time.

On the motion of the Hon. Attorney-General, the Council went into Committee on the Bill.

On Clause 2, dealing with the granting of special licences to transport indentured Chinese emigrants to South Africa, the Hon. Attorney-General moved that the words "in force in the said Colony or Protectorate" should be struck out and the words "which have been made or sanctioned by the legislature of the said Colony or Protectorate and are in force therein" substituted.

Hon. R. SHEWAN—What is the meaning of "indentured Chinese emigrants"?

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—The expression is taken from the Convention, and I think it is a very suitable expression to describe these people. They go down there under contract for a term.

H. E. the GOVERNOR—They sign indentures before they depart.

The amendment was adopted.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved a similar amendment on Clause 3, which was adopted.

A similar amendment was also adopted on the preamble and the Bill passed committee.

The Council resumed.

The Standing Orders being suspended,

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the third reading of the Bill.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded.

The Bill was read a third time and passed.

The Council adjourned till Thursday, 27th October, at 3 p.m.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

H. E. the Governor having left the chair, the Council went into Finance Committee, the Colonial Secretary presiding.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$25,000 in aid of the vote Public Works Extraordinary for purchasing the remaining portion of Kowloon Island Lot No. 1,011 for the purpose of constructing roads.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—The object is to continue Robinson Road northward.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$38,100 in aid of the votes Public Works Recurrent and Extraordinary for the following items:—

Public Works Recurrent.

9. Miscellaneous Works:—

Opium Searchers' Sheds ... \$2,200

Alterations in Government Offices ... 200

Saiyungun School—Scaffolding for Playing Grounds ... 300

Alterations for Improvement of Post Office Accommodation ... 40

Total Public Works Recurrent ... \$31,000

Public Works Extraordinary.

10. Buildings—Post Office ... 35,000

Total ... \$38,100

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—We underestimated the expenditure on the Post Office this year. It is costing more than was anticipated.

Hon. R. SHEWAN—How?

Hon. COLONIAL SECRETARY—In respect to the foundations.

The votes were unanimously passed.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE.

A report by the Examiners of Queen's College was laid on the table.

INVENTIONS OF JAPANESE NAVAL OFFICERS.

Among the inventions which have added materially and conspicuously to the fighting efficiency of the Japanese Navy may be instance, says "Engineering," the gun-rack of Rear-Admiral Yamamouchi, the water-tube boiler of Engineer-Admiral Miyabara, the smokeless powder of Dr. Shimose, the percussion-cap of Vice-Admiral Ijima, the floating mine of Commander Oda and Captain Tanaka, and several others which might be mentioned, all of great practical utility in real warfare. The Japanese officer is a highly-trained scientific man, and a survey of all the conditions shows that the success of the Japanese Navy is not of a haphazard nature, but is the result of a long system of training, combined, of course, with the fearless bravery of the officers and men. What has been said of the Japanese naval officers might also be said of the officers of the army, although there are not the same opportunities for the display of engineering skill. Japanese military officers devote themselves absolutely to their profession, living for nothing else, and fearless of death.

SUPREME COURT.

Thursday, 20th October.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR HENRY BERKELEY (CHIEF JUSTICE).

WHAT IS CONTRABAND.

Hon. E. H. Sharp, K.C. (instructed by Mr. Hastings), moved on behalf of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha that the award dated the 26th day of September, 1904, of Ebert Angus Hewett, the arbitrator, acting under the submission to arbitration contained in an agreement of Charter Party dated the 10th of February, 1904, and made between Messrs. Sander, Wier and Co., as agents for the captain and owners of the Norwegian s.s. *Proetheus*, and the Osaka Shosen Kaisha as charterers, be set down for hearing as a special case. Mr. Sharp put in a number of affidavits and documents, and remarked that the whole question was as to the meaning of the word "contraband." Mr. Hewett had acted as sole arbitrator by consent of both parties, although in the charter party, it was stated that in cases of dispute an arbitrator should be appointed by each side with an umpire or referee.

His LORDSHIP made the order in the terms asked, the date of hearing to be subsequently arranged.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR T. SERCOMBE SMITH (PUNISH JUDGE).

Frank Jorge sought to recover from the Sun Life Insurance Company, of Canada, the sum of \$125, being one month's salary in lieu of notice.

Mr. E. J. Grist (Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist) appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Harding (Messrs. Ewens and Harston) defended.

The plaintiff was engaged early in August to canvass business at a salary of \$125 a month. He introduced nothing during the month and the manager, when paying his salary, said to him: "Your business is entirely unsatisfactory, but I recognise the difficulty of a new man taking up insurance business. I will give you another month's trial, and if you do not prove more successful we must sever relations." In September plaintiff did nothing at all, and he was paid off on the 1st inst., when he gave a receipt in full.

Mr. Stein, the local manager of the defendant Company, gave evidence, and denied that there was any contract, expressed or understood.

His Honour gave judgment for defendant with costs.

POLICE COURT.

Thursday, 20th October.

BEFORE MR. H. H. J. GOMPERTZ (ACTING FIRST MAGISTRATE).

NO BAD INTENTION.

The Captain of the s.s. *Samsen* was charged with leaving port with passengers, when no mention of passengers was made when he cleared his ship. After hearing the defendant, His Worship accepted the plea that the rules of the harbour were not broken intentionally and dismissed the defendant with a warning.

BEFORE MR. J. H. KEMP (ACTING SECOND MAGISTRATE).

CUTTING AND WOUNDING.

Theker Singh, an unemployed Indian of the watchman class, was charged with maliciously inflicting grievous bodily harm on William H. Ryan, a police constable. He was also charged with unlawful possession of a sword. Defendant pleaded not guilty. He said he picked up the sword in the street and was on his way to the station when he met the constable. He handed over the sword, and P.C. Ryan accidentally knocked against it, cutting his neck. P.C. Ryan is at present in hospital, but the wound in his neck is not serious. The case was remanded.

CUTTING TREES.

Six persons were fined \$10 each for cutting down trees at Han Wong Temple, New Kowloon—Crown land.

COAL FOR RUSSIAN WARSHIPS.

According to the Cardiff Correspondent of the *Times* extensive orders for Welsh steam coal continue to be placed at Cardiff or on the Baltic Exchange, London, largely through German intermediaries, and several vessels have left, and others will leave shortly for Las Palmas and Madeira with coal, which there is every reason to believe will be transferred at sea to the bunkers of the Russian cruisers engaged in the search for contraband. This was the case recently with the *Valesia*, which left Cardiff for Las Palmas and was afterwards engaged on the north-west coast of Africa, seen engaged in coaling Russian cruisers, and the *Indra*, from Barry, which coaled the *Peterburg* and *Smolensk* off Madagascar. The German steamers *Miles* (at Newport) and the *Hans Meisel* (at Cardiff), after loading, have been detained for over a week, apparently awaiting further instructions from the Russian Government. The latter vessel cleared for Madeira for which destination two other German steamers were at the date of writing loading cargoes at Cardiff.

During September nearly 30 vessels cleared at Cardiff with cargoes totalling over 100,000 tons, consigned to Kona, Liban, St. Vincent, Las Palmas, Madeira, Canary Islands, Manila (via Cape), Colombo, Shanghai, and Hongkong. Though considerable secrecy has been exercised in the chartering, there is every reason to believe that Russia is the buyer. There will be active shipment to these places from South Wales ports during October.

At about seven o'clock last evening fire broke out on the third floor of No. 11, Bonham Stand, a Chinese bank. The Brigade, under Mr. E. R. Hallifax, turned out promptly, and the fire was confined to the third floor, which was burned out. The premises were insured with the Hip On Co. for \$2,000.

PARIS LETTER.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

PARIS, 16th September.

THE RELIGIOUS QUESTION.

The French are once more low-spirited, and look as if anticipating trouble in the near future. The religious question, the Marseilles strike, and the war in the Far East, are grave subjects for them indeed. The relations between the Vatican and France are far from reassuring. M. Combes' determination to ask Parliament to vote for the separation of Church and State is considered by many as a very important step. Though the Prime Minister, it is said, has been urged to think twice before going so far, it is not likely that he will go back, or modify his policy in that direction. Much controversy exists as to the ultimate issue of the conflict; belief is gaining ground that the Holy See will have the best of the bargain. Has M. Combes been misled? Time will prove. Up to the present, it is clear he has blundered, for he has failed to reckon with the unexpected. The complete submission of the Bishops of Dijon and Laval has much reassured the Pope, and weakened M. Combes' policy. The conflict has passed through a great number of phases already: all that remains is for the French Government to apply the final touch, when an end will be put to all relations between France and Rome. The letter written to the *Siecle* by Pere Hyacinthe Loyson—who, strange to say, has remained absolutely silent up to now—has created a sensation; he promises to give his views very shortly on the question. Meanwhile he shows the bent of his thoughts by saying that the spectacle presented by the Church at the present moment causes him cruel suffering, for, though he had been separated from it for a long time, he still retains his love for it. By way of summing up the critical situation Pere Loyson quotes two sentences: one is from a Spanish source, having been uttered by Father Banes, a Spanish Dominican who was in trouble with the Vatican during the reign of the Emperor Charles V., and who said: "He who thinks he can cure Rome is poorly acquainted with it." The other is from Jeremiah, who says: "We tried to cure Babylon; but she has not recovered. Let us abandon her!" If Pere Loyson has ever regretted leaving the Church, he now thanks God that he has done so, and not thrown away his life in futile attempts to bring about reforms in what he calls an idolatrous and tyrannical institution.

THE SHIPPING STRIKE.

The shipping strike at Marseilles is as wicked as ever; efforts made to effect an amicable settlement have proved a failure. The dockers refuse to give way unless all their demands are acceded to: the letter: indignation meetings continue to be held by them, while delegates who are reported to have capitulated to the masters are severely dealt with. Grave as the situation is in the South, hopes are not yet abandoned; negotiations are still proceeding between the shipping companies and the sailors and dockers. All interested in the prosperity of the port fervently hope that a definite settlement of the disagreement will be arrived at before many more days have elapsed. The situation is admitted to be a complicated one, owing to the number of interests involved, while some of the branches of trade represented express their determination not to give way on any point. This only delays a return to normal conditions. The number of strikers and men who are locked out increases daily, there being now between 50,000 and 60,000 idle. The authorities have adopted extraordinary measures of precaution, in case the men should break their promise, and proceed to extremes. "The quays and docks are occupied night and day by armed gendarmes and police, while the garrison of the town is being strongly reinforced; battalions of infantry and regiments of cavalry continue to arrive. Workmen in the other parts of the country are also on strike out of sympathy with their comrades at Marseilles, resulting in the trade of many towns being brought practically to a standstill.

THE OPERA COMIQUE.

The Opera Comique intends carrying out a splendid idea this winter. With the approval of the Ministry and Director of the Fine Arts Department, arrangements have been made with the managers of a number of local theatres to give performances of high-class musical pieces with the co-operation of the famous Opera Comique Company. The prices to be charged for seats are to be as low as possible consistent with the balancing of the accounts. M. Carré, the popular manager of the State Theatre, having merely asked for the out-of-pocket expenses of his Company. The poorer classes will in future be able to enjoy a better kind of music. Nothing could have been more welcome than M. Carré's idea to bring out successful pieces to outlying localities, where the most famous singers will interpret them. That is true philanthropy.

THE SHOOTING SEASON.

The Paris journals are full of stories and anecdotes connected with the shooting season, which began a fortnight ago. One of the best tales told for some time relates how a young man, more than usually touchy and particular, expressed his dislike for those shooting parties where so many persons are gathered together, and where it is almost impossible to escape without a pepping. He gave vent to his ill-humour in the hall, which was crowded with the gentlemen who were to accompany him, and told them that he was unable to restrain himself, and should any single shot strike him he could not help turning on his awkward companion, and give him the contents of his two barrels. An elderly gentleman asked him if he had ever had occasion to fire at anyone. On his replying affirmatively, the ancient quipped proceeded to draw the charge from his right-hand barrel and

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[2159]

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[53]

TO LET

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G. J. SEQUEIRA,
Care of A. R. Marty,
Hongkong, 28th September, 1904. [2321]

TO LET.

NO. 1, STEWART TERRACE, the Peak. Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY CO., LD.
Hongkong, 28th March, 1904. [365]

TO LET.

FINE LARGE STORE, in Queen's Road Central (Best Part). Apply to—
Care of Daily Press Office,
Hongkong, 6th September, 1904. [211]

TO LET.

FURNISHED ROOM, with Board, from date, Tomis Court attached; near Kowloon Ferry, Kowloon. Apply to—
C. L.,
Care of Daily Press Office,
Hongkong, 5th October, 1904. [2375]

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35, Queen's Road Central,
Hongkong, 3rd June, 1904. [74]

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THE whole of the SECOND FLOOR of No. 34, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, formerly known as the Alexandra House, opposite the Post Office. Also Rooms or Offices on the First Floor of same address. Apply to—
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COMPRADORE DEPARTMENT,
Nippon Yusen Kaisha,
Hongkong, 17th September, 1904. [430]

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THE SECRETARY,
The Bowling Club Ltd.,
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Hongkong, 29th June, 1904. [175]

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2ND and 3RD FLOORS, No. 35, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL; suitable for Office. Apply to—
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Hongkong, 4th October, 1903.

RUSSIA AND JAPAN.

THE ECONOMIC STRUGGLE.

The Times writes:—Behind the vicissitudes of the great armed conflict in the Far East is being waged an even greater struggle, less patent to the world at large in its results, but keenly felt by the two combatants, and fraught with consequences as vital as those of the decisive operations in Central Manchuria and before Port Arthur, on which the eyes of the world are fixed. That is the struggle of economic endurance; the trial of strength in the sinews of war, upon which the issue of the war itself may in the last resort depend. The pinch of this economic struggle comes directly home to theelligerents. Outside observers stand in a rather different case. They may derive from their neutral position a clearness of view which is impossible for the combatants themselves; but they are less likely to be in possession of exact knowledge, and what they have will be fruitless, unless they are at pains to divest themselves of those common but misleading generalizations which obscure the controlling factors of the case. It is probable, for instance, that the conception of the rise of Russia, which has been responsible for so many false ideas about the purely military side of the war, exercises an even more distorting influence when its economics are under consideration. Can anything exhaust that colossal empire? It might seem not, until we remember that her vast natural resources are still far too undeveloped to be assets immediately effective, that she labours under a budget of enormous proportions, and that it was at a moment by no means economically favourable that she plunged into war. Whether we look at the depressed condition of Russian industries—based, many of them, on quite artificial foundations of Government support—or at the vast cost of the expansion of State railways, to which M. Witte bore ominous witness before the Imperial Council while he was still at the head of the Ministry of Finance, we see abundant signs of a grave economic situation, which it did not need a mighty war to complicate. Since the war began, the inevitable consequences have made themselves felt in Russia. As a St. Petersburg correspondent told us some weeks ago, something like a paralysis has descended on all those industries whose prosperity is not bound up with supplies and munitions of war. The Government Committee on Economy, which was formed on the outbreak of hostilities, took the extremely shortsighted course of cutting down expenditure on many industrial undertakings, instead of boldly attacking the upstart of official corruption. The drain made on manufacturing establishments by the calling out of reservists, and dislocation of railway traffic by military exigencies, have had a similarly depressing effect on commerce. Side by side with this gloomy picture, the Japanese trade returns for the first eight months of the year, showing an actual increase over the figures for the same period in the bumper year before, provide a rather remarkable contrast.

Of still more immediate import is the purely financial position of the combatant Empires. It is interesting to see, from such data as are available, how Japan compares in this respect with her much larger rival. As our Military Correspondent observes, in his article upon "War and Finance"—to-day, she appears to have prepared as scientifically in the financial sphere as in that of the fighting services. It is true that she was asked a very high rate for the foreign loan she raised during the early part of the war. But, when she raised it, the only means of gauging her full military power was by intelligent anticipation. It is safe to say that, after her successful exploits by land and sea, the logic of facts will procure her a much more favourable reception in the money markets of the future. She is spending every day more than three times as much as she spent in the war with China; but then Russia, at the most moderate estimate, is spending eight millions a month—nearly three times as much, it is calculated, as Japan. To determine how far these demands are affecting Russian credit is an engrossing study, though, in view of the obscurity that hangs over the finances of the Government, it is one that must be pursued with caution. The latent wealth of the Russian Empire is, no doubt, very great; but the question is to what extent, and on what conditions, the potentialities of the future can be converted to immediate use for the purposes of the war. Besides the loan raised last May in France, an Imperial Ukase has directed the issue of six new series of State Rente bonds, to the total amount of fifteen millions sterling. The Official Messenger has since published an explanatory statement on the matter, which, however, in the opinion of even German critics, fails to explain. In estimating the significance of this or any other financial expedient of the kind, the fundamental fact about Russian credit must not be lost sight of. It depends on the large gold reserve which it has been the deliberate policy of the Finance Ministry to accumulate within the country. On this reserve the legitimate note issues of the Russian Imperial Bank depend. So far as can be seen, Russia, when the war began, had the power to effect a note issue of 364 millions, or 54 millions including her foreign holdings, without infringing the stipulation that a note issue up to 60 millions has to be guaranteed by 50 per cent. of its value in gold, and above that limit must be covered rouble for rouble. It may be presumed that she will do everything in her power to avoid impoverishing the gold reserve which is the basis of her credit, and will have recourse to foreign loans as long as she can obtain them. At present she is still, no doubt, subsisting on the proceeds of her French loan. We shall be in a better position to judge when we know on what terms the negotiations which are stated to be now proceeding in Berlin for a large loan to Russia are finally concluded.

It has, further, to be remembered that we are not dealing with a situation which is static, but with one which is rapidly developing, and at present more or less in one direction. As matters now stand, the maintenance of operations in the theatre of war imposes a greater drain upon Russia in men and money than it does upon Japan. Russia is operating from a distant base; she has to employ paid labour extensively in Manchuria, whereas the Japanese meet such demands out of their own national organization; and, finally, her expenditure on railway repair alone must necessarily be very great. These are factors which have been making themselves felt already in the war. What has still to be insisted upon is that there is very little prospect now of the situation being in any way modified to Russia's advantage in the course of this year's campaign. It is not extravagant to anticipate that the fall of Port Arthur and the consolidation of the Japanese armies in a dominating position in Central Manchuria will have been finally compassed before the advent of winter. For Japan the strain will then be appreciably relaxed. The relief may be only temporary, but it will not be without its effect. While Russia slowly and laboriously prepares herself for what will then have to be, next year, a fresh offensive, Japan, in close communication with her base, may be in a position to reduce her forces for a time. Though these considerations are not primarily economic, the economic effect of their realization may be very great. They afford still further reason for concluding that the disparity of resources between the two contending Empires is not quite so great as some people are ready to suppose.

MR. MICAWBER'S DESCENDANTS.

No nineteenth century personage has bequeathed a more numerous progeny to the twentieth century than Mr. Wilkins Micawber, the man who was always "waiting for something to turn up." As with the progenitor, so with the progeny—they turn up nothing themselves, but wait for something to turn up. There is a career of patience. They live upon hope and die fasting. Mr. Cecil Rhodes was in no way related to the Micawber family. He came to South Africa to make his fortune, and not being content to wait, until something turned up, turned up something himself, and a very good turn up it was, viz., diamonds. When Mr. Rhodes left England to seek his fortune here he had youth on his side, but not good health. How he succeeded in winning good health and an immense fortune all the world knows. But note that the good health came first. That is the natural, the inevitable order: health first, and wealth second, third, fourth, perhaps not at all—but health first, always. What is the matter with the Micawber family that accounts for their failure in everything they undertake? Chronic laziness, you say. Yes, truly; but why chronically lazy? We will undertake to diagnose the novelist's great creation, and assert with confidence that Mr. Micawber suffered from indigestion. That theory at once accounts for his love of ease, his love of energy, and fatal habit of letting the world slide.

"For many years," writes Mrs. Veselna Rossow (who lives back of Saville Engineering Works, Japetus Town, Johannesburg), in a letter dated April 4th, 1904, "I suffered from indigestion. All the symptoms of that distressing complaint were present, some of them in a very aggravated form. From time to time my appetite almost ceased, and when I did eat, it always produced pain at the chest. Severe headaches, and pains in the stomach and between the shoulder blades, were so incessant that at times I became quite light-headed; sparks used to appear before my eyes and everything seemed to be turning round.

"Alarmed at the serious state of my health, I tried a great number of medicines that were recommended by one and another of my friends, but obtained no more than temporary relief from the best of them. When, however, at length I tried Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup (the world-renowned remedy of which Messrs. A. J. White, Colonial Ltd., corner of Princess and Diesel Streets, Port Elizabeth, Cape Colony, are proprietors), all this changed. A few days after I first began to take the Syrup, I perceived a welcome return of appetite. The pains from which I had so long suffered began to decrease, and gradually left me until they were gone entirely. Now, after a short course of the medicine, I am as well as ever I was in my life, and gratefully recommend the means of my cure."

For sapping energy, and transforming the young into the old, indigestion is not to be matched in a catalogue of all the diseases. The number of people who have learned this truth from painful experience is legion. Here is another of them—Mrs. S. Seibel, of Commissioner Street, Johannesburg—who writes this on 19th April, 1904: "For many years I was without proper appetite, and suffered greatly from sleeplessness. The doctors who attended me said that mine was a case of general debility; but I fear they did not correctly understand it, for they were unable to do me any good. That was a task reserved for Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup. When, acting upon advice, I began to take that wonderful remedy, it at once became clear to me that my troubles were nearly over. I have to thank it for my complete cure."

Both Mrs. Rossow and Mrs. Seibel have now the health and energy proper to their respective ages, and are as unlike Mr. Micawber as possible.

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To illustrate the vast scope of the work the following facts are submitted for consideration:—
Chalmers' Vocabulary contains about 16,000 Chinese characters, and Medhurst's English and Chinese Dictionary about 100,000 whilst this work contains more than 50,000 English words and upwards of 600,000 Chinese characters. Again, despite all the grammars and other elementary works as yet published, the student of this difficult language absolutely requires examples to display the various applications and equivalents of different words which have no general meaning. Of these examples this work contains more than five times as many as any other Dictionary hitherto published.
For practical purposes the arrangement of the work is so complete that a reference to its pages enables a person who understands English to communicate effectively with natives who understand nothing but Chinese. In this respect the work will be found indispensable to all Europeans residing in China, and to the natives themselves it explains subjects fully with which they have indeed at them are portly acquainted. To parties resident in England and interested in China it cannot but be invaluable occasionally. It comprises upwards of two thousand large quarto pages.
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Ho Yikong, 4th August, 1897.

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NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

STEAMSHIP "LYRA,"
FROM TACOMA, SEATTLE, VICTORIA,
YOKOHAMA, KOBE, MOJI
AND SHANGHAI

THE above Steamer having arrived, Con-
signees of Cargo are hereby requested to
send in their Bills of Lading for countersig-
nature and to take immediate delivery of their
Goods from alongside.
Cargo impeding the discharge of the Vessel
will be landed and stored at Consignees' risk
and expense.
No Fire Insurance will be effected by us in
any case whatever.

DODWELL & CO., LD.
Agents.
Hongkong, 16th October, 1904.

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FROM CALCUTTA, PENANG AND
SINGAPORE.

THE Company's Steamship
"KUMSANG,"
having arrived from the above ports, Con-
signees of Cargo by her are hereby informed
that their Goods will be delivered from along-
side.

Cargo impeding the discharge or remaining
on board after 4 P.M. of the 21st inst., will
be landed at Consignees' risk and expense
into Godowns at EAST POINT.
No Fire Insurance will be effected.
Bills of Lading will be countersigned by
JARDINE, MATHESON & CO.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 19th October, 1904.

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FROM TRIESTE, FIUME, PORT SAID,
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"MARIA VALERIE,"
having arrived, Consignees of Cargo are hereby
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This Vessel brings Cargo:—
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Trieste.

From Trieste ex s.s. *Imperator*, transhipped
at Bombay.

Optional Cargo will be discharged here unless
notice to the contrary be given immediately.
No Claims will be admitted after the Goods
have left the Godowns, and all Claims must be
sent in to the Office of the undersigned before
NOON, on the 25th October, or they will not be
recognised.

No Fire Insurance has been effected, and any
Goods remaining in the Godowns after the
25th October, will be subject to rent.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by
SANDER, WIELE & CO.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 18th October, 1904.

SHIPPING IN PORT.

AGINCOURT, British str., 2,376, H. T. Worsnop,
Hainan Island 1st Oct.—Gilman & Co.
AMARA, British str., 1,536, C. J. Matlock, 17th
October, Moji 13th October, Coal—
Jardine, Matheson & Co.
BINH THUAN, French str., 933, Ribault, 15th
October, Samarang 29th Sept, Sugar—
Bradley & Co.
CHOWKAT, German str., 1,055, F. Spiesen, 17th
October, Bangkok 5th October, Rice—
Butterfield & Swire.
DAGAN, German str., 921, C. Wolf, 18th
October, Bangkok 11th October, Rice—
Butterfield & Swire.
DECIMA, German str., 794, Schalkier, 14th
October, Saigon 14th Oct., General—
Sander, Wieser & Co.
DENDALE, British str., 772, Moss, 17th Oct.,
Singapore 27th Sept. and Saigon 10th
Oct., Rice and General—Master.
ELG, Norwegian str., 708, Christoffersen, 30th
Sept., Moji 26th September, General—
Sander, Wieser & Co.
FOREST DALE, British str., 2,284, H. Noall, 18th
Oct., Moji 12th Oct., Co. L.—Bradley & Co.
HAILONG, British str., 788, C. A. Mutton,
17th October, Hainan Island 15th Oct.,
General—Douglas Leppick & Co.
KANPOT, French str., 900, Nona, 30th Aug.,
Samarang 25th Aug., General—Brad-
ley & Co.
KARIN, Swedish str., 607, G. Patterson, 7th
Oct., Saigon 1st October, Rice—Sander,
Wieser & Co.
KUMSANG, British str., 2,077, E. J. Buller, 19th
October, Calcutta and Singapore 13th
October, General—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
LILIA, British str., 1,844, E. M. Morris, 28th Sept.,
Saigon 23rd Sept., General—Chinese.
LOONGSANG, British str., 1,022, G. S. Weigal,
17th Oct., Manila 14th Oct., General—
Jardine, Matheson & Co.
LOSOK, German str., 1,020, Schultzen, 18th
October, Swatow 17th Oct., Rice—Butter-
field & Swire.
MARIA VALERIE, Austrian str., 2,643, Berberov-
ich, 18th October, Trieste and Singapore 13th
October, French Mails and General—
Sander, Wieser & Co.
NUMANTIA, German str., 4,384, Brehrer, 19th
October, Moji 14th Oct., Coal—Portland
and Asiatic Steamship Co.
PAKIAT, German str., 1,018, Demes, 5th Oct.,
Bangkok 28th Sept., Rice and Wood—
Butterfield & Swire.
PETCHABURI, German str., 1,373, G. Hillmann,
18th Oct., Bangkok and Kolsichang 11th
October, Rice and Wood—Butterfield &
Swire.
RUBI, British str., 1,611, R. W. Almond, 17th
October, Manila 15th October, General—
Shewan, Tomes & Co.
SAMSAN, German str., 998, Rehwaldt, 19th Oct.,
Bangkok (Kolsichang) 12th Oct., Rice—
Meuchers & Co.
SIKH, British str., 3,216, James Rowley, 12th
Oct., Yokohama 7th October, Ballast—
Dardanel & Co.
SIMONGAN, Dutch str., 1,302, J. T. van Tol,
19th Oct., Samarang 7th October, Sugar—
Chinese.
TARTAR, British str., 2,768, F. W. Evans, 18th
October, Vancouver 19th Sept., General—
C. P. B. Co.
THILAPAP, Dutch str., 2,475, H. Koops, 17th
October, Macassar 9th Oct., General—
Java-China-Japan Lijn.
TINIAN, British str., 1,463, W. B. Brown, 15th
October, Australia via Manila and Sydney
20th Aug., General—Butterfield & Swire.
YATSHING, British str., 1,423, T. Sellar, 12th
October, Sourabaya 3rd Oct., Sugar—
Jardine, Matheson & Co.
YAWATA MARU, Japanese str., 2,366, A. E.
Moser, 18th October, Yokohama 8th Oct.
and Nagasaki 11th, General—Nippon Yusen
Kaisha.

SAILED SHIP
E. B. SUTTON, American barque, 1,248, Joha-
son, 18th July, Chefoo 25th June, Ballast.
—Order.

BRITISH WARSHIPS.
ALACRITY, British despatch-boat, 1,700, Comdr.
R. M. Harbord.
CHERUB, water tank and tug.
ESPIGUE, British gunboat, 1,070, Ernest G.
Barton.
HANDY, torpedo boat destroyer.
OTTER, torpedo boat destroyer, Lieut. E. H.
Jellicoe.
TAKU, torpedo boat destroyer.
TAMAR, receiving ship, Commodore C. G.
Dicken.
VENGEANCE, battleship, 12,950, Capt. Stuart,
C.M.G.
VIZAG, torpedo boat destroyer.

FOREIGN WARSHIPS.
BAINBRIDGE, U.S. torpedo boat, Lieut. Sexton.
BARRY, U.S. torpedo boat, Lieut. Irwin.
CALANCO, U.S. gunboat, 235, Lieut. Dismaker.
DECATUR, U.S. torpedo boat, Lieut. Jessop.
FRENCH, French torpedo boat, 380, Lieut.
Tebende.
GENERAL ALAYA, American transport, Captain
Whitton.
HANSA, German cruiser, 5,900, Capt. Weber.
JAVELINE, French torpedo boat, 360, Bawusan.
MONTCAUL, French cruiser (Vice-Admiral's
flagship), 10,600, Cross.
MOUSQUET, French torpedo boat, 360, Prat.
PISTOLET, French torpedo boat, 360, de Reinach-
Werth.
TITANIA, German cruiser, Capt. Schaeke.

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Argus, gunboat, 123 tons, — guns, 500 h.p.,
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Aspic, gunboat, 475 tons, 3 guns, 450 h.p.,
Lieut. McArt, Saigon.
Avalanche, gunboat, 140 tons, 5 guns, 150 h.p.,
Haiphong.

Baionnette, gunboat, Lieut. Lefevre, Saigon.
Bengali, gunboat, 580 tons, 6 guns, 400 h.p.,
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Caronde, gunboat, Lieut. Hue, Saigon.
Casse-tete, gunboat, 140 tons, 5 guns, 150 h.p.,
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guns, 17,000 h.p., Captain A. M. Poidiole,
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Saigon.
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h.p., Captain Goudot, Saigon.

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h.p., Lieut. Blaise, Haiphong.
Jacquin, gunboat, Lieut. Corquer, Haiphong.
Javeline, destroyer, 307 tons, 7 guns, 300 h.p.,
Lieut. Comdr. Beaussant, Hongkong.
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Comdr. Le Galleur, Shanghai.
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9,700 tons, 12 guns, 19,600 h.p., Capt. Cros,
Hongkong.
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Oly, gunboat, — tons, — guns, — h.p., Lieut.
Audemar, Yangtze.
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Pehlo, gunboat, Lieut. Lavissiere, Tongka.
Pistole, destroyer, Lieut. de Reinach-Werth,
Hongkong.
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Lieut. Roque, Shanghai.
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Lieut. —, Yangtze.
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Fetherland, cruiser, — tons, — guns, — h.p.,
Captain von Buelow, Shanghai.
Furst Bismarck, (flagship), 11,000 tons, 36 guns,
14,000 h.p., Captain Proze, Shanghai.
Geier, cruiser, 1,776 tons, 15 guns, 2,800 h.p.,
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